IN THE SPECIFICATION

On the title page, please delete the original title and insert a new title:

--PROCESS FOR DETECTING HIV-3 RETROVIRUS--

At page 1, line 1, insert a new first paragraph:

--This is a continuation of co-pending application Serial No. 09/379,270, filed August 23, 1999, which is a continuation of 08/900,902, filed July 25, 1997, now issued as United States Patent No. 6,013,484, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/486,836, filed June 7, 1995, now issued as United States Patent No. 5,795,743, which is a divisional of Serial No. 08/228,519, filed April 15, 1994, now issued as United States Patent No. 5,567,603, which is a divisional of Serial No. 07/460,913, filed March 23, 1990, now issued as United States Patent No. 5,304,466, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of PCT/EP89/00643, filed June 8, 1989 and claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of EP 88 109 200.1, filed June 9, 1988.--

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At page 3, line 9, please insert a new paragraph:

--Subsequent to the filing of prior application Serial No. 08/228,519, the medical industry and scientific community has recognized the change in classification of HIV-3 to HIV-1 subtype 0. *See, e.g.,* Rayfield et al., *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 2:209-212 (1996); Janssens et al., *AIDS* 8:1012-1013 (1994); Simon et al., *AIDS* 8:1628-1629 (1994); Gürtler et al., *Journal of Virology* 68:1581-1585 (1994); and Vanden Haesevelde et al., *Journal of Virology* 68:1586-1596 (1994).--

B3

On page 5, lines 24 – 33, please delete the two paragraphs and insert:

--Differential antigen capturing is performed as described hereinafter. The solid line represents the results obtained using a broad-spectrum anti-HIV-1 IgG while the broken line depicts the results obtained using an IgG which was rather specific for HIV-1. Figure 2A, Figure 2B, Figure 2C, Figure 2D, and Figure 2E each shows a typical titration obtained with HIV-1. Figure 2F shows the result obtained with HIV-3 (ANT 70) containing supernatant.

B4

B4 cont. - Figure 3A shows differential antigen capturing on HIV-1 and Figure 3B shows differential antigen capturing on HIV03 (ANT 70 NA) supernatants.--

On page 6, lines 7-8, please delete the paragraph and insert:

B5 --Figure 4A shows the reactivity of anti-HIV sera on HIV-1 and Figure 4B shows the reactivity of anti-HIV sera on HIV-2 Western Blot strips.--

On page 7, lines 17-18, please delete the paragraph and insert:

B6 --Figure 8A, Figure 8B, Figure 8C and Figure 8D show the effect of coating IgG dilution on the binding of HIV isolates.--.

On page 8, lines 6-7, please delete the paragraph and insert:

B7 --Figures 10A-E show comparisons of reactivity of human anti-HIV antisera to different HIV types.--

On page 8, lines 19-30, please delete the three paragraphs and insert:

--Figures 11A-C show the titrations of anti-HIV sera by enzyme immunoassay.

B8 Microwell plates were coated with lysates of HIV-1 (SF4), HIV-3 (ANT 70) and HIV-2 (isolate 53). Serum from an HIV-1-infected European (Fig. 11A), antiserum to HIV-3 (ANT 70 NA) (Fig. 11B) and antiserum to HIV-2 (isolate 53) (Fig. 11C) were titrated in 2-fold dilutions beginning at a dilution of 1:100 on all three coated plants.

Figures 12A and B show the positions of methionine and tryptophan residues in viral p17 and p24 gag gene products and Figure 12C shows the positions of methionine and tryptophan residues in viral pol gene products.--

On page 9, lines 11-25, please delete the three paragraphs and insert:

--Figures 13A-D show comparisons of partial cleavage products of gag and pol gene products of HIV-1 (SF4) [HIV-1 in the figure], HIV-3 (ANT 70) [isolate 70 in the figure], HIV-2rod [HIV-2 (LAV-2) in the figure] and HIV-2 (isolate 53) [isolate 53 in the figure]. The terms p24 and p17 are used in the genetic sense to indicate the largest and second largest viral core proteins, respectively.

B9 Figures 14A-1, Figure 14A-II, Figure 14A-III, Figure 14B-1, Figure 14B-II, and Figure 14B-III show hybridization of cDNA clones to viral RNA.

Viral RNA from HIV-1 (SF4), HIV-2rod, and HIV-3 (ANT 70) were spotted onto a membrane filter as described in Materials and Methods. The filters were hybridized under either nonstringent (A) or stringent conditions (B) and autoradiographed.--

At page 55, lines 33- 37 please delete the paragraph and insert:

B10 --The hybridization data also support the notion that ANT 70 is fundamentally different from either HIV-1 and HIV-2. As long as the conditions under which the hybridization is performed are stringent, a distinction can easily be made among the three virus types. RNA of the HIV-3 retrovirus virtually hybridizes neither with the Env gene or the LTR close to it, in particular not with the nucleotide sequence 8352-9538 of HIV-1, nor with the sequences of the Pol region of the HIV-1 genome under stringent conditions.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-30 and 32-36, without prejudice.

Please amend claim 31 to read:

B11 31. (Amended) A process for the detection of HIV-3 retrovirus or of its RNA in a biological liquid or tissue, characterized by contacting nucleic acids contained in said biological liquid or tissue with a DNA probe containing at least 360 contiguous sequences corresponding to the genomic RNA of HIV-3 retrovirus under stringent hybridization conditions, washing the hybrid formed with a solution preserving said stringent conditions, and detecting the hybrid formed.